

Idaho, Congressman Mike Simpson, together will introduce the "Endangered Species Consolidation Act". This measure will ensure that ESA activities regarding fish that spawn in fresh or estuarine waters and migrate to ocean waters—and vice versa—are managed and coordinated through one agency—the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The bill will eliminate duplication and allow scarce resources to be focused on achieving the true objective of the Endangered Species Act—recovery of species through science-based management.

#### WRIGHT TOWNSHIP CELEBRATES 150TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 28, 2001*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of the House of Representatives to the 150th anniversary of the founding of Wright Township in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. I am honored to have been asked to participate in the township's Independence Day parade, which will double as a celebration of the sesquicentennial.

Wright Township was established by the Court of Quarter General Sessions on April 12, 1851. It is named for Hendrick Bradley Wright, a resident of Luzerne County who served four terms in this House between 1853 and 1881 and also served as speaker of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and Luzerne County district attorney. In commemoration of the 150th anniversary, the National Archives and Records Administration recently donated to the township a framed photograph of Hendrick Wright taken in the 1860s.

The community was carved from Hanover Township, and has seen its population grow despite seeing part of its territory become incorporated into the new communities of Fairview Township, Rice Township and Nuangola Borough over the years. The township encompasses 13.9 square miles of land.

At its founding, Wright Township had just 152 inhabitants, and its character remained primarily rural until the 1950s. In 1950, the population was 948, which has more than quintupled to 5,593 in 2000. A major reason for the increase in population was the opening of the Crestwood Industrial Park in 1952. This 1,050-acre facility is home to more than 20 businesses that employ more than 3,000 people. Wright Township continues to work with the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business and Industry and businesses located or considering location in the industrial park.

To help preserve the quality of life the residents enjoy and provide for orderly community and economic development, the township adopted a comprehensive plan and subdivision and land development and zoning ordinances in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

As the township grew, it upgraded its public services to meet the citizens' increasing needs. In 1972, the police, the public works department and the supervisors' office moved into the newly constructed municipal building. Previously, the police operated out of the firehouse, the road department operated out of a developer's garage and the supervisors' office was in the home of the secretary.

In the 1970s, the Wright Township Recreation Park was completed, and the township is currently in the process of a major expansion of the park to include a regulation soccer field, loop trail and a plaza with additional parking. Another service to residents is the drop-off recycling program that was begun in 1991 for the Mountain Top area.

The community has planned an extensive celebration of its 150th anniversary and America's independence that includes a concert, fireworks and a festival with food, entertainment, games and crafts.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent the people of Wright Township, and I am pleased to call their community and patriotic spirit to the attention of the House of Representatives on the occasion of the township's 150th anniversary.

#### A TRIBUTE TO NORMA STEWART HAMILTON

**HON. BOB ETHERIDGE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 28, 2001*

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of America's great teachers, Mrs. Norma Stewart Hamilton of Dunn, North Carolina, in my congressional district, who is retiring from teaching on June 29th after 39 years of service to the children and communities of Harnett County. I want to take this opportunity to thank her for her hard work and service.

Norma Hamilton teaches home economics. She is known for her disciplined teaching style, but she possesses an ability to make her classroom an enjoyable place to learn. Recently, several of her former students joined together to celebrate her life's work at the 39th annual Western Harnett High School Mother-Daughter Banquet. They recalled her classes, the exams she gave, and most importantly, her willingness to listen and give sage advice. One of Mrs. Hamilton's former students, Mrs. Rebecca Collins Hunter, herself a home economics teacher, remembered that Mrs. Hamilton never allowed teaching subject matter to supersede her goal of teaching the individual.

It has been said that "The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. And the great teacher inspires." As the former Superintendent of my state's schools, I know the difference that an outstanding teacher can make in the lives of young people. Great teachers, like Norma Hamilton, not only teach academic lessons, they teach life lessons. They strengthen the moral fiber of their students and of the communities where they teach. They challenge their students to strive for excellence.

In almost four decades, she touched and shaped the lives of over 4,000 children. She inspired more than a generation of students to achieve their dreams and make their own unique impression upon the world.

Mr. Speaker, when Norma Hamilton retires at the end of this week, she will take on a new role in the Harnett County community. Although he will no longer teach in a classroom, I know she will continue to contribute to the lives of those around her because great teachers never stop teaching. Today, I honor her for her dutiful service, and on behalf of a grateful

state, I thank her for inspiring us with her great teaching.

#### HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE OF JOHN PITTARD

**HON. BART GORDON**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 28, 2001*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the long and distinguished career that my friend John Pittard has had in the public service arena. John has served on the City Council in my hometown of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, for 19 years, as well as other civic boards and organizations within the city.

John's pride for his community is obvious. He has helped guide the city through a period of tremendous growth, not only in population but also in quality of life. He is one of the most honorable public servants I know, and I've known him most of my life. In fact, we went to high school and college together.

John's devotion to public service comes honestly. Both his mother, Mabel Pittard, and his father, the late Homer Pittard, were longtime educators and gave much of themselves to their community. A Murfreesboro school—the Homer Pittard Campus School—was even named after John's father.

Murfreesboro owes a huge debt of gratitude to John, who never became disillusioned or cynical during his two decades of public service. He served the city because of his love for the community, nothing else. John's wife, Janice, and his daughters, Emily, Mary and Sarah, are fortunate to have such a good man in their lives.

I have a deep admiration for John and congratulate him for his many accomplishments. His decency transcends both his public and private life. Thank you, John, for being such an unselfish and caring public servant.

#### HONORING SKIHI ENTERPRISES, LTD.

**HON. KAY GRANGER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 28, 2001*

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, today I want to recognize a great Texas company, SkiHi Enterprises, Ltd., on its 20th anniversary. Over the past 20 years, SkiHi has built a reputation as one of Texas' leading mechanical/industrial contractors. I want to extend my congratulations to the company's founders, Richard Skipper and Tom Hicks, and to everyone else who has had a hand in SkiHi's success.

In 1981, Richard Skipper and Tom Hicks formed SkiHi. Mr. Skipper and Mr. Hicks had both worked in the industry for many years, which gave them the experience and knowledge they needed to create a successful business together. They started with a simple business plan, focusing on not over-extending SkiHi's limited resources and on steady, controlled growth. Because of these wise business practices and high quality work, SkiHi has become one the best respected mechanical/industrial contractors in the state of Texas.